(b) what is the present total production of the item?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Full demand for Hot Rolled Coils is likely to be met indigenously after modernisation and expansion of the existing steel plants is completed and additional capacity for the production of the type of steel has been set up in the country.

(b) During 1987-88 indigenous production of Hot Rolled Coils and Sheets in the country was 1.72 million tonnes.

Import of Wheat and Rice

486. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import wheat and rice in view of deplecting buffer stocks and low procurement of wheat during the current rabi season and what are the reasons for low procurement of wheat;

(b) if so, the names of the countries alongwith the total amount spent for importing the wheat for buffer stocks;

(c) the position of buffer stock as on the 1st January, 1986, 1987 and 1988 and what will be the estimated buffer stock as on 1st January, 1989; and

(d) the total foodstock at the end of 1986 and to what extent it declined in 1987 and the position as on the 30th June, 1988 and to what extent imports of foodgrains is likely to improve the buffer stock at the required level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) Government has already contracted for import of 1 million tonnes of wheat and 7 lakh tonnes of rice to replenish the buffer stocks. Low procurement of wheat may be ascribed to estimated lower production and short arrivals in the market.

(b) The cost of 1 million tonnes of wheat being imported from USA comes to about US $ 103.78 million F.O.B.

(c) and (d) The stock of foodgrains with the public agencies as on 1st January, 1986, 1st January, 1987 and 1st January, 1988 were estimated at 25.21 million tonnes, 23.63 million tonnes and 14.14 million tonnes respectively. Stocks on 30th June, 1988 were estimated at 11.90 million tonnes. Estimates of stocks with public agencies as on 1st January, 1989 are not available. Improvement in the level of stocks will depend on a number of factors such as the quantum of internal procurement, imports and issues of stocks by public agencies.

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STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 1988 to Unstarred Question 2446, regarding expenditure incurred from Asiad Funds

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the reply given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th March, 1988, to Unstarred Question 2446, regarding expenditure incurred from Asiad Funds